(c) Bank of Baroda has reported hat regularisation of daily-waged art-time messengers was delayed lue to certain technical objections aised by the local Employment Exchange. These have since been sorted out and appointment of regular nessengers have been made as per iorms laid down by NABARD.

Indian Cost Accounts Service Officers

2427. SHRI HARI SINGH:
DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) when the Indian Cost Accounts Service was constituted and which authority administers the same;

(b) how many officers of the service have stayed for more than four years at one place in the same organisation;

(c) how the service would be made effective without the rotation of officers; and

(d) what are the criteria involved for deputation of officers from the service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) The Indian Cost Accounts Service was constituted in September 1978. This service is administered by the Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure).

(b) 11 officers as on date.

(c) As far as possible, the policy of rotation of officers is followed. However, due to a general shortage of officers in the service, rotation of officers is being done keeping in view the administrative requirements of the participating organisations.

(d) In view of the general shortage of officers in the Indian Cost Accounts Service, generally officers empanelled by the Department of Personnel and Training for Central deputation are considered for deputation. Where, however, requests for deputation are received direct, these cases are decided keeping the overall interest of the Service, seniority of the officer concerned, and the job requirements of the post.

Foreign Exchange spent on Import of Rifampicin

2428. DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY:
DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that $209 per kg. are being spent on import of intermediate of the drug Rifampicin;

(b) whether the drug Rifampicin is available at $150 per kg.;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the difference is being over-invoiced and being siphoned off as foreign exchange from the country; and

(d) how have the producers now started importing Rifa-S instead of 3 Formly Rifa-SV without specific approval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The import of drug intermediate 3 Formly Rifamycin SV has been noticed at Bombay Airport at the rate of US Dollar 190 to 197 (CIF).

(b) The import of the drug Rifampicin B.P. at the rate of US Dollar 250 per kg. has been noticed. Import at the rate of US Dollar 150 per kg. has not been noticed at Bombay Airport.

(c) As the finished product Rifampicin is costlier, the question of over invoicing does not arise.

(d) The import of Rifamycin-S, has been noticed recently at Bombay Airport at the rate of US Dollar 140 per kg. No specific approval is required as the clearance is allowed under Open General Licence and is claimed accordingly by the importers.

Changes in Customs Duty Structure

2429. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently announced certain changes in the customs duty structure;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is the purpose of announcing the changes in customs duty structure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) to (c) During the period 1st July to 31st October, 1988, 82 notifications were issued making changes in the customs duties. Copies of such notifications are being laid on the Table of the House from time to time. Changes in customs duty rates are made for achieving objectives such as protection of indigenous industry, reduction of in-put costs for the indigenous industry, promotion of exports etc.

Violation of FERA by Mr. Win Chadha

2430. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on the action suggested by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) the income tax authorities have served a notice on Mr. Win Chadha (Under FERA) on their examination of documents concerning BOFORS deal; and

(b) if so what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise. However, the assessing officer is carrying out enquiries into the matter under the provisions of the Income Tax Act.

Gold Loans to Farmers

2431. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of farmers State-wise who availed gold loans and, having become defaulters, whose ornaments (pledged with banks etc.) were auctioned during each of the last three years and so far during the current year and also the value of gold (ornaments etc.) so auctioned;

(b) what is the year-wise and State-wise amount of bank loans so involved; and

(c) what is the number of industrialists whose gold ornaments were pledged with banks and were similarly auctioned in the same period and also the value thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India has reported that their present data reporting system does not provide the information asked for.